

**THE CITY OF BATTLEFIELD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2011**

Item 1 Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Aaron Kruse. The Aldermen present were: Shawn Billings, Scott Anderson, Debra Hickey, and Carolyn Poole. Alderman Absent: Stephen Esterline, and Michael Goldenberg.

Item 2 Ceremonial matters

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was led by Alderman Billings.

Item 3 Announcements-None.

Item 4 Mayor updates

The Mayor updates were submitted in writing. Mayor Kruse noted through working with the budget he would like to see a listing of the bonds to be paid off and note when the payoff date is and then if those funds can be put towards paying off the other balances, so the City is fiscally responsible especially with the increases expected to maintain the sewer system. Mayor Kruse would also like a policy drafted regarding the reserve accounts so money can be put aside for each department to operate for approximately 3-6 months if necessary, so the City will not be put in a position to incur another bond issue. Mayor Kruse noted the City would have to work on the revenue coming in, and to note the additional Parks tax would not be placed on the August ballot.

Item 5 City Administrator updates

The City Administrator updates were submitted in writing. Mr. Rick Hess, City Administrator informed the Board that a Fire Suppression Training would be offered by the Battlefield Fire District on June 24, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. to go over the proper use of fire extinguishers for staff and any of the Board is welcome to attend.

Mr. Hess reviewed the information provided to the Board regarding those that are consistently on the sewer shut off list and asked for them to review the policy and consider one letter rather than several letters per year. Mr. Hess explained at present additional resources are exerted on delinquent customers multiple times per year for approximately 122 people. Mr. Hess noted he would be drafting a letter for the Board to review in the near future. Mr. Hess noted if an adjustment needs to be made to the Ordinances, this can be prepared. Alderman Billings noted he would like to see a breakdown of the cost to the City for the delinquent customers in relation to if the payments are not received because of being lax or the inability to pay the bill.

Mr. Hess informed the Board about the training he, Mayor Kruse, and Maintenance Supervisor Mike Yeubanks recently attended for Emergency Management. This training focused on how to operate when a disaster occurs; how the City can continue to complete daily functions including payables and payroll. Mr. Hess noted he would be bringing this information obtained to the Board for the next couple of meetings.

Mr. Hess would like to initiate an annual event for the Cherokee Trail located within Battlefield's City Park since being designated as a historic site. In the near future, a trail from the park through to Cloverdale Lane will eventually tie into the Ozark Greenways. Mr. Hess noted he would like to involve representatives from the Cherokee tribe and possibly hold a walk in honor of the designation yearly.

Item 6 Update from 134th District State Representative Thomas Long.

Mayor Kruse noted the representative was unable to attend the meeting this evening.

Item 7 APB quarterly updates

Bob Ranney the Chairman of the Advisory Park Board gave an update on the upcoming July 4th activities and noted Frisbees would be handed out to attendees and if there are any leftover

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they could be handed out at the booth for the 150th Anniversary for Battle of Wilson's Creek. Mr. Ranney noted he had met with the City's representative handling the landscaping of the Parks to determine where to place trees in the various parks for a total expenditure of \$12,000.

Item 8 Adoption and approval of consent agenda

A motion was made by Alderman Hickey to adopt and approve the consent agenda which included May 17, 2011 minutes; May 31, 2011 executive session minutes, bills to pay in the amount of \$30,856.04; and committee and employee reports. The motion was seconded by Alderman Billings. A roll call vote was taken and the vote was 4 Ayes- Scott Anderson aye, Carolyn Poole aye, Debra Hickey aye, and Shawn Billings aye. 0 Nays. Alderman Goldenberg and Alderman Esterline were absent for the vote. The motion passed.

Item 9 Public Input

Mr. Bob Miller had signed up to speak but was not present at the meeting to speak to the Board.

Item 10a Discussion and Possible Vote Concerning Draft Budget 2011-2012

Discussion continued on the review of the budget. The following additions/deletions were made: change formatting to add zeros instead of reflecting blank spaces; on page 14 correct listing on item 10 to remove \$110 and make it \$1,100; on page 12 under item 45 remove farmer's market reference; add more detail to the Bond Payoff schedule by listing the interest rate and the early pay off requirements, if applicable; add percent of proposed increase to all salary line items for more clarification, and consider compensation for those who are on call 24/7 and carry cell phones. Mayor Kruse asked the Board, if they felt comfortable with possibly approving the budget at the next meeting or would a study session need to be held on a Saturday, since the Budget needs to be approved before July 1st. Consensus from the Board if the corrections are made and highlighted it could be approved possibly at the next meeting. No action was taken on this item.

Item 10 b Discussion of Sanitary Sewer Rate Study prepared by Anderson Engineering, Inc.

The Board reviewed the Sanitary Sewer Rate Study and noted it would be necessary to pass on the increase in increments to the citizens as issued through the City of Springfield. City Administrator Rick Hess noted a public hearing would need to be held so this issue would not be voted on this evening and the public hearing would have to be held with 30 days of the publication so, if the ad was placed in the Republic Monitor on the 15th the public hearing could be held at the 2nd meeting in July of the Board and then the increase could be implemented. Mayor Kruse reiterated the need to inform the public of the public hearing and the increase utilizing the City's newsletter, sewer bill and face book account to convey the information. Mr. Hess noted the increase would be 18% the first year then another 18% the second year. Alderman Hickey made the suggestion to remove the increase as listed in the draft budget until the increase is approved and then add to the budget with an amendment. Mayor Kruse asked for the Board's input. Consensus from the Board to remove the increase as listed in the budget and then amend the budget once the increase has been reviewed and possibly approved.

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Item 11a Appointment and affirmation of TIF committee member.

Mayor Kruse mentioned that he had reviewed the paperwork submitted by Ms. Carol Vandekerkhove who would like to serve as a TIF committee member and he would like to appoint her to this committee. A motion was made by Alderman Hickey to approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint and affirm Ms. Carol Vandekerkhove as a TIF committee member until December 2012. The motion was seconded by Alderman Anderson. A roll call vote was taken and the vote was 4 Ayes-Scott Anderson aye, Carolyn Poole, Debra Hickey aye, and Shawn Billings aye. 0 Nays. Alderman Esterline and Alderman Goldenberg were absent for the vote. The motion passed.

Item 12 adjournment

A motion was made by Alderman Poole to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Alderman Billings. A roll call vote was taken and the vote was 4 Ayes-Shawn Billings aye, Shawn Billings aye, Debra Hickey aye, Carolyn Poole aye, and Scott Anderson aye. 0 Nays. Alderman Esterline and Alderman Goldenberg were absent for the vote. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

_____ Mayor Aaron Kruse

_____ Date

ATTEST:

_____ City Clerk

_____ Date

Reading and Vote to Approve Minutes:

Minutes Approved: